

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 23. Please also amend claim 18 as shown in the complete list of claims that is presented below.

Claim 1 (cancelled).

2. (previously presented) An update notification device according to Claim 1, wherein the updated data extracting means extracts the updated data from the differential information piece.

3. (previously presented) An update notification device according to claim 7, wherein the updated data extracting means has means for converting the updated data to a main passage when the size of the differential information piece is equal to or more than a predetermined threshold value.

4. (previously presented) An update notification device according to Claim 7, wherein the differential information piece pertains to a part of the web page data determined by a template held in advance in accordance with the web page, and the updated data extracting means extracts the updated data from the differential information piece.

5. (original) An update notification device according to Claim 4, wherein the updated data extracting means has means for converting the updated data to a main passage when the size of the differential information piece is equal to or more than a predetermined threshold value.

Claim 6 (cancelled).

7. (previously presented) An update notification device for repeatedly accessing at least one web site identifiable with a preset address and outputting a notification message if any web page has been updated in the at least one web site, the device comprising:

updated data extracting means for extracting updated data from an updated web page;
notification-receiver's address holding means for holding the address of a user terminal for receiving a notification message with respect to each at least one web site with an updated web page;

updated data output means for adding, to the notification message, at least one of a header of the updated data, at least some of the updated data, and information about the address of the updated web page, the updated data output means sending the notification message to the address of the user terminal,

wherein the notification-receiver's address holding means further has means for holding at least one keyword with respect to the address of the user terminal, and

wherein the updated data extracting means has means for removing a differential information piece from the updated data when the differential information piece does not include the held keyword, the differential information piece representing differences between old and new web page data.

8. (previously presented) An update notification device according to Claim 7, wherein the updated data extracting means has means for compiling a rank, which indicates a degree-of-attention of the web page, in accordance with the frequency of occurrence of updated data having a keyword corresponding to each user terminal.

9. (previously presented) An update notification device according to Claim 7, wherein the updated data output means has means for creating the notification message in accordance with a predetermined template before the output of the notification message.

10. (previously presented) An update notification device according to Claim 7, wherein the updated data output means has means for creating a title of the notification message from the updated data.

11. (previously presented) An update notification device according to Claim 10, wherein the updated data output means has means for giving, to the title of the notification

message, a notification message issue number incremented for each notification message issued with respect to a particular web site or for each user terminal to which the notification message is sent.

Claim 12 (cancelled).

13. (previously presented) An update notification method according to Claim 18, wherein the updated data extracting step extracts the updated data from the differential information piece.

14. (previously presented) An update notification method according to Claim 18, wherein the updated data extracting step has a step for converting the updated data to a main passage when the size of the differential information piece is equal to or more than a predetermined threshold value.

15. (previously presented) An update notification method according to Claim 18, wherein the differential information piece pertains to a part of the web page data determined by a template held in advance in accordance with the web page.

16. (original) An update notification method according to Claim 15, wherein the updated data extracting step has a step for converting the updated data to a main passage when the size of the differential information piece is equal to or more than a predetermined threshold value.

Claim 17 (cancelled).

18. (currently amended) An update notification method for repeatedly accessing at least one web site identifiable with a preset address and outputting a notification message if any web page has been updated in the at least one web site, the method comprising:

an updated data extracting step for extracting updated data from an updated web page;

a notification-receiver's address holding step for holding the address of a user terminal for receiving a notification message with respect to each at least one web site with an updated web page; and

an updated data output step for adding, to the notification message, at least one of a header of the updated data, at least some of the updated data, and information about the address of the updated web page, and for sending the notification message to the address of the user terminal,

wherein the ~~notification-receivers~~ notification-receiver's address holding step further has a step for holding at least one keyword with respect to the address of the user terminal, and

wherein the updated data extracting step has a step for removing a differential information piece from the updated data when the differential information piece does not include the held keyword, the differential information piece representing differences between old and new web page data.

19. (previously presented) An update notification method according to Claim 18, wherein the updated data extracting step has a step for compiling a rank, which indicates a degree-of-attention of the web page, in accordance with the frequency of occurrence of updated data having a keyword corresponding to each user terminal.

20. (previously presented) An update notification method according to Claim 18, wherein the updated data output step has a step for creating the notification message in accordance with a predetermined template before the output of the notification message.

21. (previously presented) An update notification method according to Claim 18, wherein the updated data output step has a step for creating a title of the notification message from the updated data.

22. (previously presented) An update notification method according to Claim 21, wherein the updated data output step has a step for giving, to the title of the notification

message, a notification message issue number incremented for each notification message issued with respect to a particular web site or for each user terminal to which the notification is sent.

Claim 23 (cancelled).